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the State Department. Part of the force in international law are already in Europe, including David H. Miller, chairman of the law committee of the State Department.

Every important nationality of Europe and western Asia has had representatives here for conference with "The Inquiry." Authorities native to the affected countries in Europe have lent their aid and have placed at the disposal of the "Inquiry" all sources of information in their native languages. These, together with numerous secret documents and much information hitherto unavailable to scholars, has resulted in a bibliographic collection altogether unique and valuable. It will become part of the records of the State Department.

The cartographic force of the American Geographical Society, greatly augmented by government aid, began a map-making program hitherto without precedent in this country, all work being carefully drawn from the latest and best sources. Maps have been made to visualize not only all manner of territorial boundaries, but distribution of peoples, number and local densities of population, religions, economic activities, distribution of material resources, trade routes, both historic and potential strategic points.

A series of base maps and block diagrams, the most nearly complete series existing, has been prepared by the American Geographical Society, bearing upon all the geographical problems both of the war and the peace which is to follow. This series has been adopted by the War Department and prescribed by its Committee on Education and Special Training for use in all colleges and other centers where units of the Students' Army Training Corps are located, and for use by chairmen of the War Issues Course Groups. Many of these base maps and block diagrams have already been procured by colleges and universities.

Upon these base maps the Peace Commissioners, or others, by use of colored lines, may immediately have a map showing new state lines, ethnic boundaries, a rectified frontier, or a distribution of any sort, and at the signing

of the treaty of peace, a complete record of the new map of Europe.

All information gathered by "The Inquiry" has been so carefully classified, indexed and subdivided that it will be instantly available.

The library for the commissioners will also include hundreds of maps and books from the American Geographical Society, from Harvard, Princeton, Haverford College, the Library of Congress and the New York Public Library. These, with the data gathered by the inquiry have been constantly under guard.

The American Geographical Society will prepare, under the supervision of its director, Dr. Isaiah Bowman, a complete history of the work of "The Inquiry." A history of it will also be prepared for the History Board of the War Plans Division of the General Staff of the War Department.

President Wilson visited the headquarters of "The Inquiry" on October 12, on which occasion he registered his name on the wall in the office of the director of the American Geographical Society. Immediately under it are the names of Secretary Lansing, who visited the "Inquiry" on two occasions, and of Colonel House.

During the year there were a large number of other distinguished visitors, including Secretary Houston, Governor McCall and Major Requin, for a time General Foch's Chief of Staff. The last-named, at the time of his visit, constructed a blackboard sketch of the first battle of the Marne, and this, now carefully preserved, has great historical interest.

#### SCIENTIFIC EVENTS

##### THE SALTERS' INSTITUTE OF INDUSTRIAL CHEMISTRY<sup>1</sup>

THE Salters' Company has during many years given evidence of its interest in the promotion of scientific education and research by the provision of fellowships tenable by post-graduate workers. It has now taken a further very important step in announcing a scheme for the establishment of an institute to be called "The Salters' Institute of Industrial

<sup>1</sup> From *Nature*.

Chemistry." The offices of the institute will be for the present at the Salters' Hall, and the scheme will be administered by a director, who will be selected on the ground of qualifications based on a distinguished academic career in chemistry coupled with extensive technical experience. An Advisory Board composed of representatives of the Salters' Company, the universities, and the Association of British Chemical Manufacturers is also under consideration.

The Company proposes to establish two types of fellowship, for which post-graduate students of British nationality will be eligible whether graduates of a British university or of a university in the United States or elsewhere. They are to be (1) fellowships to enable post-graduate students to continue their studies at an approved university or other institution under the general supervision of the director of the institute, and (2) industrial fellowships to enable suitably equipped chemists to carry on research for any manufacturer under an agreement entered into jointly by the institute, the manufacturer, and the fellow.

It will be observed that the Company does not at present contemplate the erection of any building or the equipment of any laboratory. Its aim is, therefore, somewhat different from that of the founders of such establishments as the Davy-Faraday Laboratory attached to the Royal Institution in London, or the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute opened in 1912 near Berlin. The intention is to add to the number of first-rate chemical technologists available for the service of industry in this country, a class of men which at present scarcely exists and is sorely needed. It is hoped to offer such attractions to some of the best students that on completing their university course they will seek to apply their knowledge to manufacture and industry generally, and that employers will recognize promptly the necessity for such assistance so that openings for such men with suitable remuneration will be provided concurrently with the supply. Hitherto almost the only career available for the honors graduate in chemistry has been in connection with the teaching profession. Probably in future

such men will be divided into two classes according to their personal predilections, some going to the works, while others will prefer teaching. In both directions the opportunities provided have been insufficient in number and inadequate in remuneration, so that many cases have occurred in which a man with distinct scientific gifts has been forced by circumstances to seek employment in other directions, and science has been consequently the poorer.

The fundamental idea which has inspired the Salters' Company may be illustrated by one or two examples. Suppose a man to have taken his degree with distinction in chemistry, and in physiology as a second subject. Elected to a Salters' fellowship, he may undertake a research on some subject of a biochemical nature. This may be carried on at his own university or at any other possessing a special school for this class of work in England or some other country. In due time arrangements may be made by the director for the fellow to take a course of chemical engineering, perhaps in America, and afterwards to obtain technical and industrial experience. In a very short time a man so trained and experienced will be in a position to demand, and will certainly be worth, a very high salary. It would be easy to provide a similar course with the necessary modifications adapted to the case of a man whose original bent is in the direction of physical chemistry or pure organic or metallurgical chemistry. The printed scheme issued by the Salters' Company gives no information as to the pecuniary value of the proposed fellowships. In estimating the annual amount which should be assigned to each fellowship, it must be remembered that the holder, while required to live simply and carefully, must be free from difficulties about books, traveling expenses and laboratory outlay. Probably £300 a year under present conditions and for some time to come will not be found too much, though perhaps expenses will depend to some extent on whether the student remains at home or is required to reside at a foreign university or center. When operations are to commence at the institute will depend

on the discovery of the right man for the office of director, and doubtless he will have a good deal to say about working details.

#### THE INFLUENZA EPIDEMIC

THE Bureau of the Census has supplied the following data concerning deaths from influenza and pneumonia covering twelve weeks ending September 14 to November 30, inclusive.

Cities in Order Affected	First Week	Maximum Week	Week when Death Rate (all Causes) Reached Normal Level	Deaths from Influenza and Pneumonia (all Forms)	
				Number	Number for 1,000 Population
Boston . . . . .	Sept. 14	4th	10th	4,510	5.7
Worcester . . . .	" 21	"	9th	919	5.3
Lowell . . . . .	" 21	"	8th	534	4.9
Fall River . . . .	" 21	"		704 <sup>1</sup>	5.5
Providence . . . .	" 21	5th	10th	1,086	4.1
New York . . . . .	" 21	6th		21,314	4.1
Cambridge . . . .	" 28	2d	7th	504	4.5
Syracuse . . . . .	" 28	4th	9th	915 <sup>1</sup>	5.7
New Haven . . . .	" 28	5th		783 <sup>1</sup>	5.1
Washington . . . .	" 28	4th	8th	2,082	5.2
Jersey City . . . .	" 28				
Pittsburgh . . . .	" 28	7th		3,710	6.3
Philadelphia . . . .	" 28	4th	9th	13,025	7.4
Indianapolis . . . .	" 28	"		584 <sup>1</sup>	2.0
Chicago . . . . .	" 28	5th		9,133	3.5
Buffalo . . . . .	" 28	"	9th	2,293	4.8
Baltimore . . . . .	" 28	4th		3,812	6.4
Milwaukee . . . . .	" 28	5th		821	1.8
Minneapolis . . . .	" 28	"		671 <sup>1</sup>	1.7
Birmingham . . . .	" 28	"	7th	622	3.1
Newark . . . . .	" 28	"		1,873	4.4
Richmond . . . . .	Oct. 5	3d		667	4.2
Kansas City . . . .	" 5	5th		1,085	3.5
New Orleans . . . .	" 5	4th		2,134	5.6
Denver . . . . .	" 5	"		962	
Louisville . . . . .	" 5	"	7th	735	3.0
Columbus . . . . .	" 5	"		526	2.3
Cincinnati . . . . .	" 5	"		1,280	3.1
Nashville . . . . .	" 5	3d		620	5.2
Atlanta . . . . .	" 5	4th	5th		
Los Angeles . . . .	" 5	5th		1,877	3.3
Cleveland . . . . .	" 5	"		2,686	3.3
Albany . . . . .	" 5	4th	8th	592	5.3
Memphis . . . . .	" 5	3d	7th	534 <sup>1</sup>	3.4
Omaha . . . . .	" 12	2d		527 <sup>1</sup>	2.9
St. Paul . . . . .	" 12	6th		624 <sup>1</sup>	2.4
Seattle . . . . .	" 12	3d		703	
Dayton . . . . .	" 12	"	6th	533	4.1
Rochester . . . . .	" 12	"		808	3.1
St. Louis . . . . .	" 12	4th		1,714	2.2
Oakland . . . . .	" 12	"		702 <sup>1</sup>	3.3
Grand Rapids . . . .	" 12	6th		128 <sup>1</sup>	0.9
Spokane . . . . .	" 12	3d		233 <sup>1</sup>	
Portland . . . . .	" 12	4th		676	
San Francisco . . . .	" 12	"		2,247	4.7
Toledo . . . . .	" 12	3d		523	2.0

<sup>1</sup> Deaths for eleven weeks only.

#### THE RETURN OF CHEMISTS TO THE INDUSTRIES

WHEN the United States entered the European war one of the first problems to be considered was the effect of the draft upon our essential industries. It was early appreciated that in order to maintain our full efficiency it would be necessary to conserve as far as possible our skilled workers and men with technical training. In order that we might not suffer from the depletion of our ranks, steps were taken to secure deferred classification, and later on provision was made to furlough back to industry. This arrangement made it possible for chemical industries to maintain their efficiency and has contributed largely to the effectiveness of our forces in the field.

Up to the time of cessation of hostilities the Industrial Relations Branch of the Chemical Warfare Service had recommended for deferred classification 641 chemists and skilled workers. These recommendations were favorably considered, as a rule, by the local boards, and as a result about 90 per cent. of the men so recommended were put in a deferred class.

Many cases, however, were not brought to the attention of this branch until the men had actually been called into service. Such chemists or skilled workers as were essential to industry were then furloughed in order that the production of war materials might not be retarded. Through this method 156 men had been returned to industry, and at the time of the signing of the armistice 120 more cases were pending in the Adjutant General's office.

As hostilities cease we naturally must again turn to peace-time conditions and look forward to the future development of chemical industry in America. The problem now before the Industrial Relations Branch of the Chemical Warfare Service is to assist chemists in service to secure positions where their training and experience can be used to the best interests of the government. This enormous readjustment is rendered possible through the information gathered by Dr. Charles L. Parsons, secretary of the American Chemical Society, and through the questionnaires sent out by Major